to the national park. This straying out animals is a normal phenomena and not because of shortage of forage inside the park. The population of rhino has increase from 1164 during 1993 census to 1552 during 1999 census. Preventive measures are taken against poaching by arranging regular and intensive patrolling by forest staff. Rhino is placed in Schedule I of the Wildlife Protection Act 1972, thus getting the highest level of protection against hunting and commercial exploitation. Making highlands where the animals can stay safely during floods is one of the major component of the action of the park. The Government of India have released following central assistance for Kaziranga National Park under the Centrally sponsored scheme "Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries".

Year	Release Rs. in lakhs
1997-98	50.89
1998-99	50.85
1999-2000	0.44

Bureaucrats Replacing Scientists

1438. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAMAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of posts in the Ministry which were originally held by qualified scientists, have been replaced by bureaucrats;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to reverse such a trend and bring back scientists who are technically and academically qualified for such category of posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.